

15 m Irizar i6 for Intercape

In July of 2016, Irizar South Africa finalised an order of fifteen i6 Plus coaches with the operator Intercape Ferreira Mainliner the premier long distance luxury coach operator in the Southern African region, with headquarters in Cape Town.

Safety, comfort and passenger experience have formed the bedrock of Intercape's product philosophy. This has been defined by the continuous evolution of specification incorporating new features to continually draw the eye and the passenger. These have ranged from customized seat colours to the repositioning of entertainment systems and the addition of dedicated crew compartments.

Intercape were the first operator to embrace the use of steering tag axle chassis and to adopt the 15m length as a fleet standard. By repositioning the toilet cubicle to the rear and eliminating the centre-mounted door of previous specifications, a capacity of 60 passengers can be achieved without compromising the comfort and spacing of passengers accustomed to other vehicles in the Intercape fleet. This configuration also allows the greatest proportion of the underfloor space to accommodate passengers' luggage and parcels. This has proved very lucrative on international routes where a premium for oversized luggage can be charged.

As a leader in safety, all Intercape units receive tracking systems, on-board incident cameras are fitted too. All units also receive an aftermarket fire suppression system fitted into the coach's engine bay. 3 point retractable seat belts will feature on all passenger seats, a first for the intercity and cross border market in Southern



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Africa and far in excess of the mandatory requirements of the region.

The latest arrivals for Intercape will continue to raise the standard of the industry. They will be the first units deployed in South Africa in the i6 configuration designed to maximise the luggage capacity of the coach. The new configuration promises both profitability and a competitive advantage to Intercape.



Intercape

Internal LED lighting will be able to cycle through a range of soothing colours to improve the ambience on board. Also, the standard on-board entertainment system will be supplemented by on-board Wi-Fi.

For the first time on Intercape individual USB charge sockets are provided for all passengers.

In all, the new order will offer an unprecedented array of features to Southern Africa's travelling public. The coaches are destined to be a source of great pride for the Intercape fleet and a new showcase for Irizar in Southern Africa.

Founded in 1979, Intercape is a second generation family owned company under the stewardship of Mr Johann Ferreira who joined his father in the business in 1986. From very humble beginnings, (the first service being an airport shuttle service between Cape Town airport and the City Centre,) the company expanded to offer intercity services in 1986.

Intercape is now the benchmark for luxury coach transport in SA with a fleet poised to exceed 200 coaches and services an extensive route network to all major cities in South Africa as well as regional routes to Namibia, Botswana, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mocambique. The regular route services are complemented by a charter division. In addition, within South Africa a parcel/courier service forms part of the product offering.